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World in Focus

USSR Still a Police State

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We have been painfully reminded on several occasions over recent months that beneath all the superficial cordiality and co-operation extended by the Soviet Union there remains the ugly fact that

Russia is a totalitarian police state and rules those it has conquered or seized outside its own borders strictly by direct military and Communist Party control.

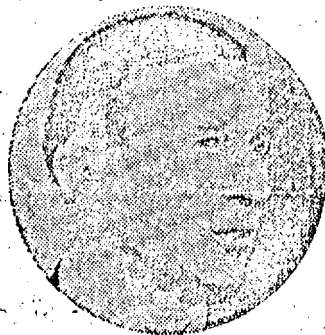
Inside the Soviet Union and behind the Iron Curtain, the foreign resident, diplomat and visitor continue to be secret police suspects — or "spies."

By the same token, the Soviet Union considers it necessary to treat the free world areas as its private poaching grounds for espionage, sabotage and subversion.

FALSE GOSPEL

A Soviet or Iron Curtain national is allowed abroad only in the service of that worldwide espionage category, be that in the guise of diplomats, trade negotiators, journalists, cultural and theater groups or exchange students.

The Russian family which spent Christmas in Ohio to demonstrate the liberalizing of their nation's daily life since the Stalin terror preached "peace, peace, peace" and is as tightly



FREDERICK BARGHOORN
Knew too much about Soviet

bound to the known and unknown Soviet police surveillance as any of the Moscow diplomats posted abroad. For all of them, "Big Brother" still breathes down their necks.

If the kind words from Nikita Khrushchev about the United States and the toned-down Communist propaganda on "imperialist" war plots raise visions of a new era stripped of the Cold War, sit down and think back beyond the rosy fog spread by politi-

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cal expedients like the nuclear test ban treaty and nebulous pledges not to annex the moon.

A WARNING

Back in Moscow, however, Khrushchev arrested Yale Professor Frederick Barghoorn because he learned too much about the Soviet Union, which cannot be tolerated. Also, it served Khrushchev as a means of warning the people that foreigners are enemies of the Soviet Union, regardless of all the chatter about "peaceful co-existence" and friendship propaganda foisted upon white and black masses abroad.

To drive home the same lesson in captive lands, he engineered the staging of a Bulgarian show trial in which a vain and shopworn "diplomat" abjectly "confessed" that he was an American spy. All the sickening trappings of the Stalin purge trials of 30 years ago were brought into play, even to the point of a long diatribe on Communist philosophy very cheerfully mouthed by the accused, Ivan Georgiev.

Obviously with the aim of frightening East Europeans and Soviet "liberalists" from getting too chummy with the West, and to b'acken U. S. prestige abroad, the spy trial concentrated on evidence so contrived that riots against the American Embassy in Sofia had to be unleashed to divert attention and coffee-house laughter.

Georgiev was a member of the Bulgarian U. N. mission from 1956 to 1961, in the

minor capacity of counsellor. Those who remember this fop and small time chiseler, who never missed a free drink or meal at any of the U. N. receptions, dismiss him with contempt.

His "confession" cited alleged spy activity that was of the flimsiest nature, including New York addresses that do not exist. He involved the name of a leading expert on Eastern Europe, Prof. Cyril Black of Princeton, as the man who is supposed to have inveigled him in the spy net.

UTTER CONTEMPT

Professor Black showed his utter contempt for this artificial trial device. But here again, Khrushchev pulled the strings on a stage play by which he warns Iron Curtain nationals against associating with foreigners and by which he can keep anti-American sentiment strong.

Then there is the other side of the coin in relation to the Barghoorn arrest and the Sofia show trial. They are the excuse and the smoke-screen for the vast Soviet espionage and sabotage operations infesting all free nations.

These arrests and trials let you know that the poor old Soviet Union must defend and protect itself against Western illwill and plots. They are intended to have you wink an eye each time another Soviet espionage ring is uncovered in your country, and brush it off with the remark that the CIA and British intelligence are just as bad.

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